

TRIBUTE TO WALTER T. McDONALD, PRESIDENT-ELECT, NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF REALTORS

HON. KEN CALVERT

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 25, 2003

Mr. CALVERT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and congratulate Walter McDonald, President-Elect of the National Association of Realtors (NAR). NAR is America's largest trade association, representing more than 840,000 members involved in all aspects of the residential and commercial real estate industries. Walter has demonstrated his commitment to Realtor issues and willingness to devote his time and expertise towards furthering the priorities of Realtors nationwide.

Walter has been a Realtor since 1964 and is the broker-owner of Walt McDonald Real Estate, a single-office, independent firm specializing in property sales, leasing and lending. He holds the professional designations of Certified Residential Specialist and Graduate, Realtor Institute.

Currently, Walter serves as a NAR director and has been particularly active in legislative, finance and housing issues. From 1996 through 1998, he served on NAR's Executive Committee. In 1998, he took over as Regional Vice President for NAR, representing the states of California, Hawaii and Guam. He also serves on the association's Leadership Team and Executive Committee. He served as NAR's First Vice President in 2002.

Walter has also been active at the state and local levels of the Realtor Organization. In 1993, he served as President of the California Association of Realtors (CAR), one of the nation's largest state trade organizations with more than 95,000 members. He has served on CAR's board of directors since 1971 and also served as Chairman of the board of Real Estate Business Services, Inc., a subsidiary of CAR. Walter also has been as President of the Riverside/Moreno Valley Association of Realtors and President of the Riverside County Real Estate Council.

In addition to his numerous professional involvements, Walter is also dedicated to his community as well. Walter has served on the advisory boards of the local Habitat for Humanity chapter, the Riverside National Bank and he is currently serving a 2-year term on the advisory board for Fannie Mae. He also served on the California Department of Real Estate Advisory Commission through 1998, under an appointment by the state's governor.

Walter's long list of accomplishments demonstrates why he is ideal for the position of President of the National Association of Realtors. His tireless passion for the real estate industry and his community has contributed immensely to the betterment of Riverside County, California, and our Nation. I congratulate him and wish him the best of luck on his future endeavors as President.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO MARGARET MORGAN

HON. SCOTT MCINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 25, 2003

Mr. MCINNIS. Mr. Speaker, it is with solemn heart that I stand before you here today and honor the memory of an outstanding citizen of my district. Margaret Morgan of Glenwood Springs, Colorado recently passed away at the age of 106. She was the region's oldest citizen and will be sorely missed. As her family and friends mourn her passing, I would like to take this opportunity to remember the remarkable aspects of Margaret's life.

Margaret was a lifelong resident of Glenwood Springs, having been born there in 1896. Margaret's was the first class to graduate from the county high school in 1916. After graduation Margaret pursued a career centered around her lifelong passion for horses. Margaret got her first horse at the age of four, immediately sparking her interest in riding and grooming the large animals. Over her lifetime, she worked as a wrangler and an outfitter for over thirty years.

Margaret's home was always open to friends and family and was frequently filled with guests from all across the country. Her hospitable nature attracted many friends throughout the years, all of whom are saddened by the news of her passing. She attributed her longevity to a life spent free of any unhealthy vices. Her diet consisted of natural foods eaten regularly, and she refrained from smoking and drinking.

Despite our society's numerous advances in science and medicine, centenarians remain rare in this day and age. Margaret was so much more than Glenwood's oldest resident to her fellow citizens; she was a tremendous asset to the community and, above all, she was a friend to many. I extend my deepest sympathies to her family and friends as they mourn her loss.

IN HONOR OF CHRISTIAN CHILDREN'S PARADE AND MULTICULTURAL FESTIVAL

HON. ROBERT MENENDEZ

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 25, 2003

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Christian Children's Parade and Multicultural Festival, which celebrated its 25th annual parade on Saturday, September 13, 2003, in Jersey City, New Jersey.

For 25 years, the Christian Children's Parade and Multicultural Festival has been providing a wonderful celebration for children and parents, and has enriched the spiritual development of young people throughout Jersey City.

By dedicating the Christian Children's Parade and Multicultural Festival's annual parade to the second anniversary of the September 11th attacks, this event will provide an opportunity for us to remember those who were lost, and to recognize the strength and unity of families and friends who lost loved ones on that horrible day.

Led by the Reverend Jose C. Lopez, president of the Christian Children's Parade and Multicultural Festival, the parade will end with a ceremony in Hamilton Park. I extend my gratitude to Reverend Lopez and his staff for making this important event possible for the children and residents of Jersey City.

Today, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the Christian Children's Parade and Multicultural Festival for its years of dedicated service to the children of Jersey City, New Jersey.

THE STERLING HEIGHTS FIRE-FIGHTERS ANNUAL DINNER-DANCE

HON. SANDER M. LEVIN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 25, 2003

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. Speaker, on Friday, September 26, 2003 the Sterling Heights Fire Fighters Union will host their Annual Dinner-Dance honoring their 2003 retirees. This is a wonderful event that I have been honored to attend in the past where hundreds of firefighters, their families, and appreciative members of the community come together to recognize the Sterling Heights firefighting family.

I am proud to rise today to pay tribute to the careers of three distinguished firefighters.

Captain Pat Silver began his firefighting career in 1978. He received the Meritorious Unit Citation for conducting a search and removal of a woman from a well-involved trailer fire. He also received the Fire Chief's Award for assisting the Training Division in developing a performance standard for pumper operations and developing and producing the "FEO" and "Dinosaur" newsletter.

Battalion Chief Bob Moore was appointed a Firefighter in 1973. He received the Fire Chief's Award for work on the Radio Committee, for using his Graphic Commercial Arts degree to mark the fleet of the Sterling Heights Fire Department with the new city logo and for his heroic participation in a house fire.

Fire Marshal Thad Balmas was appointed Firefighter in 1979. He received the Veteran's Recognition Award for serving in the Air Force and the Meritorious Unit Citation for his involvement at a major gas line explosion.

These gentlemen have demonstrated acts of heroism and actions above and beyond the call of duty. Indeed, the people of Sterling Heights have been well-served by the untiring care and concern each has given without limitations to their community.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing these gentlemen for their dedication, accomplishments and years of service. I wish them good health and happiness as they embark on a new phase of their lives.

HONORING GREATER HOLY TEMPLE MINISTRIES

HON. DALE E. KILDEE

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 25, 2003

Mr. KILDEE. Mr. Speaker, I ask the House of Representatives to join me in congratulating